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INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification ⁶ : E04C 3/02	A1	(11) International Publication Number: WO 96/02713	(43) International Publication Date: 1 February 1996 (01.02.96)
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(21) International Application Number: PCT/CA95/00435

(22) International Filing Date: 20 July 1995 (20.07.95)

(30) Priority Data:
08/278,004 20 July 1994 (20.07.94) US(71)(72) Applicants and Inventors: PAUL, Arthur, J. [CA/CA];
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V6C 3A8 (CA).(81) Designated States: AM, AT, AU, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH,
CN, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GE, HU, IS, JP, KE,
KG, KP, KR, KZ, LK, LR, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MN,
MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK,
TJ, TM, TT, UA, UG, UZ, VN, European patent (AT, BE,
CH, DE, DK, ES, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT,
SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, ML,
MR, NE, SN, TD, TG), ARIPO patent (KE, MW, SD, SZ,
UG).Published
With international search report.

2196869

(54) Title: PREMANUFACTURED STRUCTURAL ELEMENTS

(57) Abstract

A structural element that may be used to reinforce those structures or portions of structures that respond to loads in the manner of a diaphragm or shell. The units are particularly appropriate in designing structures to adequately resist earthquake, wind and other loads. The structural elements may be installed in a new building or retrofitted in existing buildings. The element (10) has top and bottom members (12, 14) and two side members (16, 18) in a substantially rectangular configuration, the top and bottom members (12, 14) have flat top and bottom exterior surfaces. Inclined brace members (20, 22) fit within the rectangular configuration connected to the top and bottom members (12, 14) and the two side members (16, 18) to form a structurally rigid element. The elements (10) may be made from any material and may be joined by any method that provides the necessary rigidity. Preferably the elements are premanufactured in the factory.

